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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 11, and 19, as follows:

1. (Amended) A computer monitoring and diagnostic system, comprising:
a computer, having a computing device and a housing;
a plurality of sensors, located within the computer, capable of sensing
conditions [of] within the computer; and
a microcontroller network, located within the computer, the network
comprising a plurality of interconnected microcontrollers, connected to the sensors
and the computer, wherein the microcontroller network processes requests for
conditions from the computer and responsively provides sensed conditions to the
computer.

11. (Amended) A microcontroller network for diagnosing and managing the
conditions of a computer, the microcontroller network comprising:
a microcontroller bus; and
a plurality of microcontrollers [that], located within the computer, wherein the
microcontrollers are interconnected by the microcontroller bus and wherein the
microcontrollers manage the conditions [of] within the computer.

19. (Amended) A system for monitoring and diagnosing a computer having a
microcontroller network, the system comprising:
means, located within the computer, for sensing the internal conditions of the
computer with the microcontroller network;
means for receiving the sensed conditions in the microcontroller network; and
means for communicating the sensed conditions from the microcontroller
network to the system bus of the computer.

Please add new Claims 20-28 as follows:

20. A computer monitoring and diagnostic system, comprising:
a computer, having a plurality of computer-related components, wherein the
components have associated environmental and systemic conditions;

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a plurality of sensors capable of sensing the environmental and systemic conditions; and

a plurality of microcontrollers connected to the sensors and the computer.

~~21. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein the sensors are located within the computer.~~

21/ 22. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein the microcontrollers are located within the computer.

22/ 23. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein the plurality of microcontrollers comprises a network of interconnected microcontrollers, each microcontroller being capable of addressing the other microcontrollers.

37 23/ 24. The system defined in Claim 23, wherein the network processes requests for environmental or systemic conditions from the computer and responsively provides the environmental or system conditions to the computer.

24/ 25. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein the computer-related components comprise at least one component selected from the group consisting of a system board, a central processing unit (CPU), a CPU fan, a backplane board, a backplane fan, a chassis, a chassis fan, a canister, a canister fan, a PCI card, and a PCI card fan.

25/ 26. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein selected ones of the sensors detect the temperature levels of selected ones of the computer-related components.

26/ 27. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein at least one of the sensors detects the speed of a fan intended to cool down selected ones of the computer-related components.

27/ 28. The system defined in Claim 20, wherein at least one of the sensors detects the voltage level applied to selected ones of the computer-related components.

REMARKS

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the time he spent in a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney on June 29, 2000. Applicant has endeavored to place the claims in condition for allowance in view of the Examiner's remarks during that telephone interview.